(e) if so, the steps taken to improve the liquidity position of Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) The working expenses of Railways during the last three years are as under:-

| Year | Figs in crores of Rs. |
|---|---|
| 1991-92 . . . | 12572.79 |
| 1992-93 . . . . | 14159.30 |
| 1993-94 (Provisional) .. .. . | 15260.97 |

(b) The income earned by the Railways during the same period are as under:-

| Year | Figs. in crores of Rs. |
|---|---|
| 1991-92 . . . . | 14113.74 |
| 1992-93 . . . . | 16114.73 |
| 1993-94 (Provisionsl) . . . . | 18370.14 |

(e) The income of the railways is more than expenditure, so there is no widening gap between expenditure and income.

(d) and (c) Do not arise.

**Revenues Earned from Passengers Travelling in Second Class/Sleeper Class**

2234. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of passengers travel by second class and sleeper class and Railways earn major share of its revenue from these passengers;

(b) if so, what are the plans to provide comfortable journey to these passengers;

(c) whether the sleeper coaches are provided with all facilities throughout the country;

(d) whether Railways conduct surprise checks to ensure proper upkeep of these coaches during journey; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Amenities are provided uniformly in all the coaches as per the recommendations of Passenger Amenities Committee. In addition, instructions already exist for provision of one TTE for each sleeper class coach in non-vestibuled train and one TTE for two sleeper class coaches in vestibuled trains in order to prevent the entry of unauthorised passengers. During summer adequate arrangements for drinking water are also made in the coaches.

(c) Yes, Sir. However availability of such facilities is adversly affected at times specially on passenger trains particularly in areas having severe law and order problem.

(d) and (e) Yes. Sir. Regular checks are conducted including at officer's level to ensure proper upkeep of coaches.

**Cost Iron Sleepers**

2235. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Safety Standard Committee of Railways recommended in 1991 that Cast Iron Sleepers are not fit for carrying heavy loads as the train cannot move